

CHAPTER 4: RULES APPLYING TO ALL PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS
OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN TEXAS

Subchapter B. TRANSFER OF CREDIT, CORE CURRICULUM AND
FIELD OF STUDY CURRICULA

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4.21. No change.

4.22. Authority.

The Board is authorized to adopt rules and establish policies and procedures for the development, adoption, implementation, and evaluation of core curricula, field of study curricula, and a transfer dispute resolution process under Texas Education Code Sections 61.051 (g), and Texas Education Code Sections 61.821- 832 [834].

4.23. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(1) Board -- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

(2) Commissioner -- The Commissioner of Higher Education

(3) Core Curriculum -- the curriculum in the liberal arts, humanities, sciences, and political, social, and cultural history that all undergraduates of an institution of higher education are required to complete before receiving an academic undergraduate degree. Core curriculum provisions apply to public colleges and universities, and to academic degree programs offered at health-related institutions.

(4) Field of Study Curriculum (FOSC) -- a set of courses that will satisfy the lower-division requirements for a baccalaureate degree in a specific academic area at a general academic teaching institution. A field of study curriculum affects academic

degree programs at public colleges or universities as designated within the particular field of study curriculum.

(5) Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) – a course numbering system for lower-division courses that assigns common course numbers to lower-division academic courses in order to facilitate the transfer of courses among institutions of higher education by promoting consistency in course designation and identification.

(6) [(5)] Course consistent with the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) -- a lower-division course that meets one of three conditions:

(A) it has an assigned a TCCNS number and is listed in the *Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual*;

(B) a TCCNS number and inclusion in the *Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual* have been requested for the course; or

(C) the institution which offers the course has specified at least one TCCNS course listed in the *Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual* that will be accepted in transfer in lieu of the course.

(7) [(6)] Institution of Higher Education or institution -- any public technical institute, public junior college, public senior college or university, medical or dental unit, other agency of higher education as defined in Texas Education Code, Section 61.003.

(8) [(7)] The *Lower Division Academic Course Guide Manual* (ACGM) -- an official Board publication that lists a basic core of general academic courses which are freely transferable among all public institutions of higher education in Texas in accordance with the Texas Education Code, Section 61.051(g). TCCNS numbers are assigned to most courses in the manual.

(9) [(8)] Faculty member -- a person who is employed full-time by an institution of higher education as a member of the faculty whose primary duties include teaching, research, academic service, or administration. However, the term does not include a person holding faculty rank who spends a majority of the person's time for the institution engaged in managerial or supervisory activities, including a chancellor, vice chancellor, president, vice president, provost, associate of assistant provost, or dean.

4.24-4.34 No change.

4.35 Texas Common Course Numbering System.

(a) Each institution shall include the applicable course numbers from the TCCNS in its printed and electronic catalogs, course listings, and any other appropriate informational resources, and in the application of the provisions of this subchapter. Institutions that do not use the TCCNS taxonomy as their sole means of course numbering shall publish the following information in their printed and electronic catalogs, course listings, and any other appropriate informational resources:

(1) The TCCNS prefix and number must be displayed immediately adjacent to the institutional course prefix and number (e.g. ENG 101 (ENGL 1301) at the beginning of each course description; and

(2) The printed and electronic catalogs shall include a chart, table, or matrix, alphabetized by common course prefix, listing all common courses taught at the institution by both the common and local course number. For printed catalogs, the chart, table, or matrix should be referenced in a table of contents and/or a subject index.

(b) Each institutional catalog shall include an explanation of the TCCNS and the significance of TCCNS courses for transfer purposes.

(c) Each institution shall comply with the requirements of sections (a) and (b) no later than September 1, 2005.

(d) For good cause, the Commissioner may approve an exemption from the requirements of this section.